



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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IDNR Announces Open Counties for 2015-16 Late-Winter and Special CWD Deer Hunting Seasons

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Illinois' Late-Winter Antlerless-only Deer Hunting Season will be open in 27 counties, while the state's Special CWD Deer Hunting Season will be open in 14 counties for 2015-16, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) announced today. The Late-Winter season provides additional hunting opportunities in counties with surplus deer, while the Special CWD season allows hunters to help combat the spread of chronic wasting disease in Illinois' white-tailed deer herd.

Season dates for the split 7-day Late-Winter and Special CWD hunts will be Dec. 31, 2015-Jan. 3, 2016 and Jan. 15-17, 2016.

Counties open previously during the Late-Winter season that will be closed for late-winter hunting in 2015-16 are Coles, Effingham, Macoupin, Montgomery, Peoria, Stark, Warren and Wayne counties. Kankakee and Livingston counties will be part of the Special CWD season for the first time in 2015-16 after detection of CWD-positive deer in those counties last year.

IDNR biologists recommended the changes for the 2015-16 seasons following analyses of deer data including hunting harvest, deer-vehicle accidents, deer disease reports, and other factors.

Hunters in Illinois harvested 5,152 deer in 35 open counties during the Late-Winter season and 1,609 deer during the Special CWD season in 12 open counties in 2014-15. Hunters harvested 145,720 deer during all firearm and archery seasons in Illinois last year.

Open counties for the 2015-16 Late-Winter Antlerless-only Deer Season and Special CWD Deer Season are listed below.

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Late-Winter Season Open Counties:

Brown
Carroll
Clark
Clay
Crawford
Edgar
Edwards
Fulton
Hamilton
Henderson
Knox
Lee
Madison
Marion
Marshall
McDonough
McLean
Mercer
Monroe
Pike
Putnam
Rock Island
Saline
Schuyler
Shelby
Vermilion
White

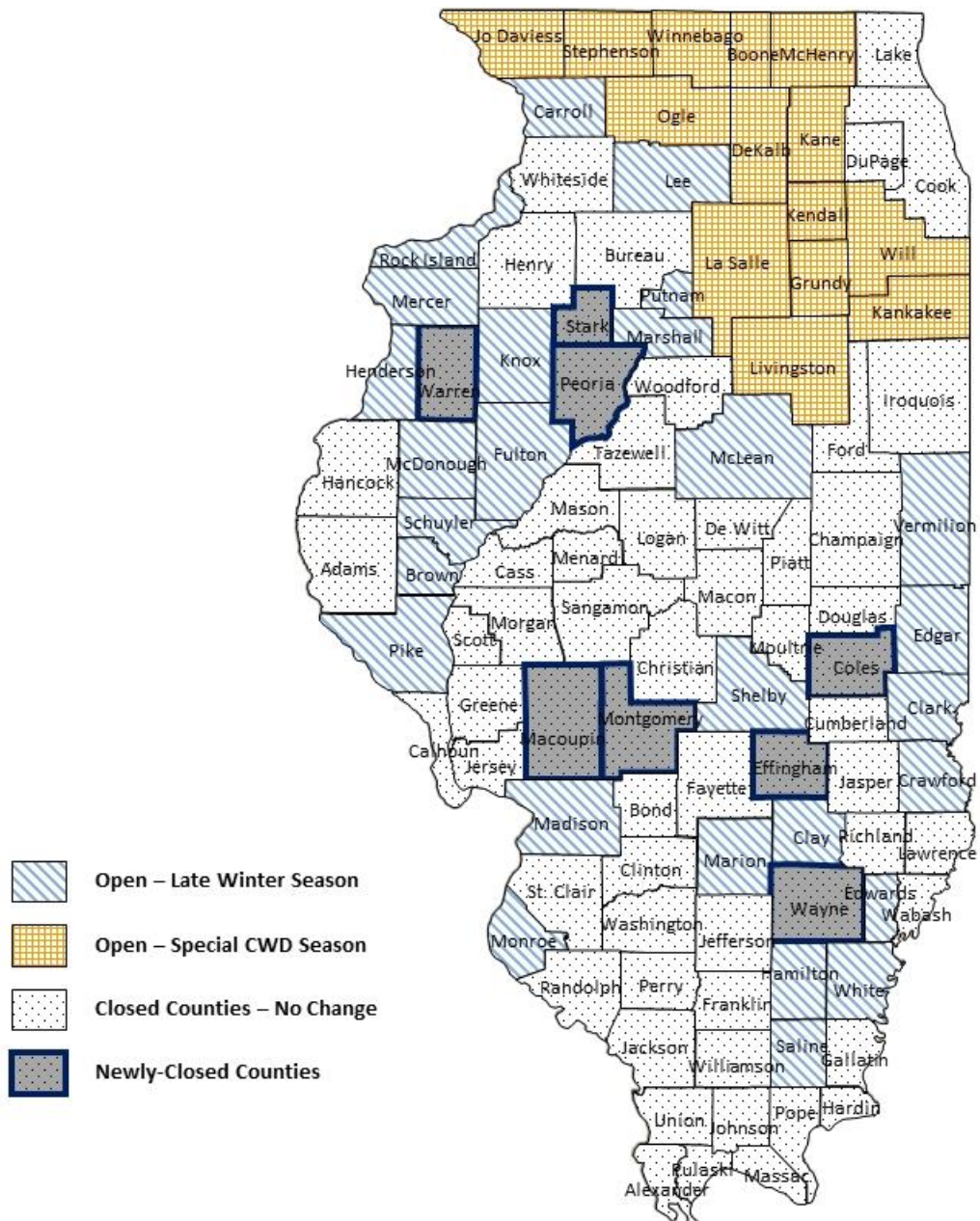
CWD Season Open Counties:

Boone
DeKalb
Grundy
Jo Daviess
Kane
Kankakee
Kendall
LaSalle
Livingston
McHenry
Ogle
Stephenson
Will
Winnebago

A map of open counties for the Late-Winter and Special CWD seasons in 2015-16 is below.

Dec 2015 - Jan 2016 Late Winter/CWD Deer Seasons

New CWD Counties – Livingston, Kankakee



The map is also available at:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/news/Documents/LWSCWDMa2015.pdf>

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